PP—London—Heraclitus Ridens.
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Sancroft (W.) Archb. of Canterbury

ANSWER

To a Late

Scandalous Libel

MADE ON THE

Ld. Arch-B. of C.

And the Bishop of Heref.

By way of Dialogue.

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*Enter a Church-of-*England-*Man, a Dissenter, and the Scribling Author of the fore-mentioned* LIBEL.

Ch. of Engl. Man. NEighbour, I am sorry that I now a-days can never see you at Church, or at Sacrament, I remember the time when you was a constant man.

Dissenter. Hold there Sir, I must borrow one of *Roger* or *Harry's* Distinctions, I was constant at Church, but not a constant man of the Church; and I was unwilling that any Advantage should be taken against me by those little Officers employed for persecuting honest Dissenters.

Scribler. And in troth I think thou wert in the right on't, when Whiggs were uppermost the Church-of-*England*-men could scarce preserve the Crown or themselves, then I cry'd out against Popery, and 'tis well known that I then writ the *Pacquet of Advice from* Rome, and gave severe glances on the Church of *England* too,

as not much better, and a-gad I would have invented any Lye to ſcandalize that Party, and take with the Rabble (whom I then ſtudyed moſt to pleaſe) but in good ſooth I had ſo much *True Matter* from *Rome* that I ſtood in no want for Invention. But now having made a Truce againſt the Common Enemy, I have ſome of the other Party furniſhes me with ſuch admirable reaſons, which by example of *Bays* I make my own, *Ey, and Ey Gad too*, I emprove 'em.

Ch. of Engl. Hark y'e Neighbour, is not this the Saucie, Scandalous Fellow, who writ that ridiculous Libel againſt the Arch-Biſhop of *Canterbury*, and the Biſhop of *Hereford*, which he calls a Dialogue.

Diſſ. This may be him, for I have heard it was done by a bold hand, and I'll aſſure ye I do not know ſuch a notable Man in the three Kingdoms for drawing a thing to the Life, and between you and I, he is one of the beſt Friends we have for endeavouring the taking away thoſe impious Laws for Payment of Tythes, and for enforcing af mens Conſciences againſt their Intereſts and Inclinations; But I muſt beg yo'r Pardon if I deſire him and your ſelf to be better Acquainted.

Ch. of Eng. I thank ye for yo'r Civility, but I believe men of a Loyal Diſpoſition will not ſute with his Temper.

Diſſ. O Sir, now he is all over Loyal------ Mr. *Care*, Pray be Acquainted with this Honeſt Gentleman, I have given your Character to him.

Scribler to the *Church-of*-England *man*.

Scrib. Sir, before I become Acquainted with ye, you muſt Anſwer a plain Queſtion.

Ch. of Engl. Sir any honeſt Queſtion I ſhall readily give an Anſwer to; but I hope, the ſence I have of things, being plainly diſcourſed, ſhall not be informed of, or miſ-repreſented in another place.

Scribler, 'Tis true, I have been a Writer in all times, for the prevailing Side, but I have written ſo much againſt Parators, Informers, and yo'r Church of *England* Conſtables, Juſtices of Peace, the perſecuting Judges, and other Preſenters, and Perſecutors, that I cannot now in a Court of Juſtice expect to be believ'd, tho' I ſhould become an Evidence, or ſcurvey Informer, but pray Sir, keep within Compaſs, for I muſt hear nothing againſt the Government.

Diſſ. No, No, God forbid (Sir) nothing againſt the Government, nothing againſt Obedience, or for Liberty of Conſcience otherwiſe then is granted to us, according to Law.

Ch. of *E.* Why Mr. *C.* I underſtand ye commit *Scandalum Magnatum*, and would frighten the Lawyers out of their Reading and Senſes, and give your Advice as frankly in publick Affairs as a Privy Councellor. Is this according to Law?

Scrib. Sir, Pray Sir, I demanded the firſt Queſtion, which if you will not hear; *Your Servant Sir.* Will you——

Ch. of *E.* Oh! Sir, I ſee what you would be at, No. But pray, Sir, Who gave ye the power of Interrogating any his Majeſties Subjects about Laws or Government? What Commiſſion have ye? or is it for the ſake of Medling, Gain, or Neceſſity, as you venture at Scribling? Come, Sir, The Thief may through Neceſſity, or for ſome Booty, Rob; but unleſs the Government be very Merciful, he muſt hang for it afterwards. I'le tell thee, I was at the *Temple* with my Lawyer, and before him lay that Impudent, Falſe, Militious, ignorant Dialogue, Hawk'd about on *Saturday* laſt, fixing on the Greateſt *Prelate* and *Peer* of this Nation, ridiculous Reaſons for not Reading the *King's Declaration*; He aſſur'd me that it was not only an Offence inquirable and puniſhable by the Government; But that (according to Modern Preſidents) his *Grace* and *Lordſhip*, might bring their Actions at the *Common Law*, and recover more Damage againſt thee, than all thy Factious Crew would ever give for the purchaſe of thy Life, or their Liberties, otherwiſe than by *Magna Charta* and the King's Royal Protection, they ought to enjoy.

Diſſen. Neighbour! But pray, of what Religion and Temper of Mind was the Man, I fear ſome Notorious Man againſt Bleſſed, *Simple*, and Pure *Conſcience?*

Ch. of *E.* Truly I ſaw a late *Poem* in his Study, of Mr. *Dryden's* on the *Prince*; where I obſerv'd in *fol.* 8. the 10. and 11. *lines*, ſpeaking of his Baptiſmal Drops.

Let Conſcience, *which is* Int'reſt ill diſguis'd,
In the ſame Font *be cleans'd, and all the* Land *Baptiz'd.*

What he meant, I leave to you, but I hope he intended only [illegible] Conſciences as thine: For in truth I always look'd on thee as a Hypocrite, and ſo I find thee, and ſo I fear ſhall leave thee.

Scrib. Sir, I know you not, Sir, I'le warrant you Sir, he and you were, worthy Sir, both of a Church, a National Church, Sir, a Loyal obedient Church, Sir; and if we knew him, Sir, We ſhould make him repent, Sir; And ſo Farewell Sir. *Your Servant, Sir. Your Servant, Sir.* We fear you not, Sir, Actions, Damages, Fines, *&c.* Sir. This Lawyer would fain be a Judge, a Recorder, or ſome ſuch thing, Sir. I'le warrant he never was ſo Loyal, nor you, Sir, if you be of the Church as you call it, to ſtand by the King, but to preſerve your ſelf, and to perſecute, as *I* have ſeveral ways in ſundry of my *Occurrences* notably written.

Ch. of *E.* I'le tell thee, that he is what *I* am, and that we both were always Loyal Church-men as by the Loyal Addreſſes we Sign'd to before thy *Occurrences* came in Vogue, and a little after thy *Pacquets* were out of faſhion, and by ſuch Rogues as thee, called *Papiſts in Maſquerade.* We were not only alwaies Loyal, but one of our Fathers was Sequeſtred, decimated, and dyed in Priſon for the ſake of the Bleſſed Martyr, the Father of our preſent Sovereign (whom God long preſerve) and his Grand-Father in *York-ſhire* raiſed two Troops of Horſe at his own Charge, under the Lord *Hopton*, and was killed in Actual Service, before the Surrender of *Oxford.* My Father dyed alſo upon that Account. And We have been ſtiff to our Duty on all Occaſions, without any regard to our Intereſts, againſt Excluſioners, who would have turn'd the World upſide down, deſtroyed the Late Good, and this preſent Merciful King; ſet up a *Monmouth* or a *Shaftsbury*, divided amongſt 'em all our Eſtates, and trampled on the whole Hierarchy of the Legally Eſtabliſhed and un-impeach'd, un-blemiſhed, Loyal and True Chriſtian Church of *England.*

FINIS.